

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

-- ~~A Disclosed~~ is a method for distilling, ~~e.g.,~~ ethanol from a mash ~~or must.~~ ~~According to said method,~~ includes feeding a fluid (1) ~~that is fed~~ to a first distillation column. ~~(stripper 13)~~ The fluid and a distillate (4) of the first distillation column (13) are delivered to a second distillation column ~~(rectification column, 14).~~ The fed fluid (1) and/or distillate (7) of the second distillation column (14) is/are purified in a first and/or last step of the ~~inventive~~ method by ~~means of~~ a membrane separation process. --